1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

103 *The Coaſt* extends from the *Bolſcheretſkoi* or Great River to the *Teghil.*

Awatſcha extends from the *Bolſcheretſkoi* to fort *Awatſcha.*

Bobrowoi or *Beaver Sea* is the diſtrict round *Kamtſchatka.*

Koreka, from the *Koreki* that inhabit it, extends from the north of the *Kamtſchatka* to the *Teghil.*

Ukoi is the eaſtern coaſt from the river *Ukoi.*

Teghil is the weſtern coaſt from the river *Teghil.*

133 361 563 *Kamtſchatka* is plentifully furniſhed with rivers; however they are ſo little that none of them are navigable by the ſmalleſt veſſels, except the river *Kamtſchatka*, which will carry ſmall veſſels 200 verſts upwards from its mouth. Into this river it is reported that ſome *Ruſſians* were brought by ſea, long before its ſubjection to *Ruſſia.* It is at preſent called *Theodotoſhine*, from the chief of thoſe people thrown a-ſhore, whoſe name was *Theodot.* Next to this, the moſt conſiderable rivers are, the *Bolſchaia-reka*, or Great River, *Awatſcha* and *Teghil*; upon which the *Ruſſians* have ſet-
133 tlements. *Kamtſchatka* is likewiſe very well furniſhed with lakes, particularly about the river of that name, where they are ſo numerous that there is no paſſage over land in the ſummer-time. Some of them are very large: the moſt conſiderable are, the lake of *Nerpitche*, which is near the mouth of the *Kamtſchatka*; the *Kronotzkoy*, out of which runs the river *Krodakighe*; and the *Kurilſkoy*, out of which runs the river *Oſernoi.*

133 712 R 177 .71 The river *Kamtſchatka* riſes in a marſhy ground, and firſt runs north-eaſt; then inclines more to the eaſt, and turning at once towards the ſouth-weſt, falls into the ocean in 56° 30′ north latitude. From its ſource to its mouth, in a ſtrait line, is 496 verſts; but the length of its courſe, according to the exacteſt computation, is about 525 verſts; during which it receives into it many brooks and rivers. About two verſts from its mouth, upon the right ſide, are three deep bays. There are ſeveral forts built along the banks of this river by the *Ruſſian* Coſſacks, to

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awe and keep in ſubjection the wild inhabitants. The *Elouki* may be reckoned the chief of all the rivers that fall into the *Kamtſchatka* on the left ſide, and its head meets that of the *Teghil*.

The *Teghil* runs almoſt in the ſame latitude with the *Kamtſchatka*; and the ſtrait road from the one to the other is by the river *Elouki*. Some little forts and ſettlements of the natives are ſcattered here and there upon its banks.

The *Bolſchaia-reka*, or Great River, called by the natives *Kreksha*, runs out of a lake 185 verſts to the eaſt from its mouth, and falls into the *Penſchinſka* ſea in the latitude of 52° 45'. Its mouth is reckoned to be 555 verſts to the ſouth diſtant from that of the *Teghil*. It is called Great upon this account, that of all the rivers that fall into the *Penſchinſka* ſea this is the only one which they can navigate from its mouth nearly to its ſpring, and this not without ſome difficulty, on account of its rapidity and the great number of iſlands. At the time of high water it is ſo deep at the mouth that large veſſels may enter; for the water has been obſerved to riſe at full and new moon very little leſs than nine *Paris* feet or four *Ruſſian* yards. It receives a multitude of rivulets; the moſt conſiderable of which is the *Biſtroy* or Rapid River, ſo called from the ſwiftneſs of its ſtream, cauſed by the many ſhoals and cataracts. You may go from the mouth of the Great River to that of the *Biſtroy*, and up within 40 verſts of its head; and from thence over a carrying place to the river *Kamtſchatka*, that ſprings out of the ſame marſh, and runs quite to the Eaſtern Ocean. And though this paſſage muſt be laborious and tedious, upon account of the rapidity of the river, and the many ſhoals and cataracts, where every thing muſt be carried by land, and which would render it impoſſible to advance more than 10 verſts in a day (as I found in my way to *Kamtſchatka* in the year 1739, when the boats were carried over the marſh, about two verſts from the head of the Rapid, to *Kamtſchatka*); yet, conſidering

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000 attempt by land, and the paſſage by ſea was not leſs dangerous; beſides there was no veſſel either in the port of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, or of Bolcheretſk*.

M. Koſloff had his affairs to ſettle, which, with the preparations for our departure, detained us ſix days longer, and afforded me time to ſatisfy myſelf that the frigates were not likely to return. I embraced this opportunity of commencing my obſervations, and making minutes of every thing about me. I attended particularly to the bay of Avatcha, and the port of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, in order to give a juſt idea of them.

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This bay has been minutely deſcribed by captain Cook, and we found his account to be accurate. It has ſince undergone ſome

* The navigation is ſufficiently ſafe in ſummer, and is the only mode of travelling that is adopted.

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alterations; which, it is ſaid, are to be followed by many others; particularly as to the port of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. It is poſſible indeed, that the very next ſhip which ſhall arrive, expecting to find only five or ſix houſes, may be ſurpriſed with the ſight of an entire town, built of wood, but tolerably fortified.

Such at leaſt is the projected plan, which, as I learned indirectly, is to be aſcribed to M. Kaſloff, whoſe views are equally great, and conducive to the ſervice of his miſtreſs. The execution of this plan will contribute not a little to increaſe the celebrity of the port, already made famous by the foreign veſſels which have touched there, as well as by its favourable ſituation for commerce *.

To

* According to the accounts of the earlieſt navigators, it is the moſt commodious port in this part of Aſia, and ought to be the general depôt for the commerce of the country. This would be ſo much the more advantageous, as the veſſels which frequent the other ports, commonly conſider themſelves

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To understand the nature, and estimate the utility of this project, nothing more is necessary

selves as fortunate if they escape shipwreck; and for this reason the Empress has expressly prohibited all navigation after the 26th of September.

I learned a circumstance at the same time, which confirms what I have said, and seems to have occasioned the first idea of these improvements.

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An English ship, belonging to M. Lanz, a merchant of Macao, came to anchor in the port of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, in the year 1786. Captain Peters, who commanded the vessel, made proposals of commerce to the Russians, of which the following are the particulars. By a treaty which he had entered into with a Russian merchant, named Schelikhoff, he engaged to carry on a commerce with this part of the states of the Empress, and demanded goods to the amount of eighty thousand roubles. These goods would probably have consisted of furs, which the English expected to find a market for in China, from whence they would have brought back in exchange stuffs and other articles useful to the Russians. Schelikhoff repaired immediately to Saint Petersburg, to solicit the consent of his sovereign, which he obtained; but while was endeavouring to fulfil the conditions of his engagement, he learned that the English vessel had been lost upon the coast of Copper Island *(Ile de Cuivre)* in its return to Kamtschatka from the north-west part of America, where it was probable it had sailed,

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361 712 R 177 .71 neceſſary than to have an idea of the extent and form of the bay of Avatſcha, and the port in queſtion. We have already many accurate deſcriptions, which are in the hands of every one. I ſhall therefore confine myſelf to what may tend to illuſtrate the views of M. Kaſloff.

The port of St. Peter and St. Paul, is known to be ſituated at the north of the entrance of the bay, and cloſed in at the ſouth by a very narrow neck of land, upon which the oſtrog*, or village of Kamtſchatka

177 439 in order to begin its cargo, which it expected to complete at the port of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. Two only of the crew were known to have been ſaved, a Portugueſe and a Bengal negro, who paſſed the winter at Copper Iſland, from whence a Ruſſian veſſel conveyed them to Nijenei-Kamtſchatka. We joined them at Bolcheretſk, and it was M. Kaſloff's intention to ſend them next ſeaſon to Peterſburg.

* The word *oſtrog* properly ſignifies a conſtruction ſurrounded with palliſadoes. Its etymology may be derived, I imagine, from the entrenchments haſtily conſtructed by the Ruſſians

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ſchatka is built. Upon an eminence to the eaſt, at the moſt interior point of the bay, is the houſe of the governor *, with whom M. Kaſloff reſided during his ſtay. Near this houſe, almoſt in the ſame line, is that of a corporal of the garriſon, and a little higher inclining to the north, that of the ſerjeant, who, next to the governor, are the only perſons at all diſtinguiſhed in this ſettlement, if indeed it deſerves the name of ſettlement. Oppoſite to the entrance of the port, on the declivity of the eminence, from which a lake of conſiderable extent is ſeen, are the ruins of the hoſpital mentioned in captain Cooke's voyage †. Below theſe,

Ruſſians to protect them from the incurſions of the natives, who, doubtleſs, did not paſſively ſuffer their country to be invaded. The appellation of oſtrog is now given to almoſt all the villages in this country.

* His name was Khaboroff, and he had the rank of a *prĕporchik*, or enſign.

† At a little diſtance from this ſpot was buried, at the foot of a tree, the body of captain Clerke. The inſcription which

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theſe, and nearer the ſhore, is a building which ſerves as a magazine to the garriſon, and which is conſtantly guarded by a centinel. Such was the ſtate in which we found the port of St. Peter and St. Paul.

By the propoſed augmentation, it will evidently become an intereſting place. The entrance was to be cloſed, or at leaſt flanked by fortifications, which were to ſerve at the ſame time as a defence, on this ſide, to the projected town, which was chiefly to

which the Engliſh placed upon his tomb, was on wood, and liable to be effaced. Count de la Peyouſe, deſirous that the name of this navigator ſhould be immortaliſed, without having any thing to fear from the injuries of the weather, ſubſtituted inſtead of it an inſcription on copper.

It is needleſs to mention, that he enquired at the ſame time where the famous French aſtronomer, from the iſland of Croyere, had been buried. He entreated M. Kaſloff to order a tomb to be erected, and an epitaph, which he left engraved on copper, to be placed on it, containing an elogy, and the circumſtances of the death of our countryman. I ſaw his intentions carried into execution after the departure of the French frigates.

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361 712 R 177 .71 be built upon the ſite of the old hoſpital; that is, between the port and the lake. A battery alſo was to be erected upon the neck of land which ſeparates the bay from the lake, in order to protect the other part of the town. In ſhort, by this plan, the entrance of the bay would be defended by a ſufficiently ſtrong battery upon the leaſt elevated point of the left coaſt; and veſſels entering the bay could not eſcape the cannon, becauſe of the breakers on the right. There is at preſent upon the point of a rock, a battery of ſix or eight cannon, lately erected to ſalute our frigates.

563 712 R 177 .71 I need not add, that the augmentation of the garriſon forms a part of the plan, which conſiſts only at preſent of forty ſoldiers, of Coſſacs. Their mode of living and their dreſs are ſimilar to the Kamtſchadales, except that in time of ſervice they have a ſabre, firelock, and cartouch box; in other reſpects

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From this minute deſcription of the fort of Bolcheretſk, it muſt appear ſtrange that it retains ſo inapplicable a name; for I can affirm, that no traces are to be found of fortifications, nor does it appear that there has ever been an intention of erecting any. The ſtate and ſituation, both of the town and its port, induce me to believe, that government have felt the innumerable dangers and obſtacles they would have to ſurmount, if they were to attempt to render it more flouriſhing, and make it the general depôt of commerce to the peninſula. Their views, as I have already obſerved, ſeem rather turned to the port of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, which for its proximity, ſafety, and eaſy acceſs, merits the preference.

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There is a degree of civilization at Bolcheretſk, which I did not perceive at Petropavlofska. This ſenſible approach to European manners, occaſions a ſtriking differ-

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22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

133 between the hills, rises the snowy cone of Koriatska; and the store-
361 house of the Alaska Commercial Company, painted the dull Indian
103 red that is so favourite a shade throughout Sweden, forms a
609 pleasing patch of colour in the foreground. It did not take us long to make acquaintance with Petropaulovsky, in spite of its imposing name. The inhabitants, we found, called it Petropaulsk, and, in short, showed every disposition to make things easy for their visitors. Salmon and bilberries were sent off to us, and, on our remarking upon the presence of cows, a supply of cream and
441 butter was not long in following. Society here is limited, the
643 Europeans being but eight or ten in number. Mr. Lugobil, the
563 local head of the Alaska Commercial Company, resides here, and
712 superintends the shipping of the sealskins from Bering and Copper
R Islands; as does Captain Hunter, the cheery agent of Phillippeus
177 and Company, another firm of fur-traders. Of stores (the American
. 64 term is in use here) there are but two. One of them was owned by a kindly old Swede, who also acted in the capacity of Mayor. He had not visited his native land for thirty years, and it was evidently a source of the keenest pleasure to him to talk of it to one of us who knew it, and loved it almost as much as he did himself. The town is now no longer a military post, and the barracks and fortifications, razed to the ground by the English in 1855, have never been rebuilt. The entire authority is vested in the Ispravnik, whom, in spite of the exigencies of his profession, we did not find averse to the seductions of trade. A Russo-American Jew, better known as the King of Kamschatka, of whom the Russian Government was extremely anxious to get rid, completed, with Dr. Dybowski, the list of Europeans of the sterner sex. The ladies were only four in number.

757 With Dr. Dybowski, who has acquired a European fame as a
115 naturalist, it was a pleasure to make acquaintance. His life had
R been an eventful one. Imprisoned in Siberia for some time for taking
177 part in the Polish insurrection, he had eventually been pardoned
. 75 and made government doctor of Kamschatka, in which capacity he

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

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locomotion as their charges. At this rate of advance our journey's end seemed distant indeed. We pressed on, however, as well as we could, and crossed a small plain from which the base of the Avatchinska group of volcanoes was visible to our right. Their summits were hidden in thick mist, and the weather, which had hitherto been fine, now looked most threatening. Arriving at a small stream, Vodki and his two companions halted, and declaring that there was no water farther on, proceeded to unload the horses. This we soon put a stop to, and telling them that, water or no water, we had no intention whatever of camping for another hour or more, we resumed our journey. The scenery now changed, and we entered a gloomy birch-forest with much thick undergrowth. This was in places six or eight feet, or more, in height, and was composed of coarse grass and giant umbelliferæ, with an occasional blue monkshood, varied in the more open parts with large patches of yellowing bracken. Before long we reached another stream, and were thus enabled to prove the truth of our surmises; but it was not till some time later that we finally halted for the night, the horseboys being by this time scarcely in a condition to proceed farther. We were glad to pitch camp and get a rest, as it had already begun to rain. Before turning in we succeeded in finding Vodki's brandy bottle, but it was perfectly empty. The man had disposed of a pint or more of raw spirit since leaving the settlement!

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In this kind of travel movement is not very rapid for the first day or two until every one has shaken down to his work, and on the following morning we were nearly three hours in getting breakfast and striking camp. The horseboys were depressed and inclined to be penitent. If, like an old Kafir servant of mine, they estimated the amount of enjoyment of the previous night by the strength of the morning's headache, they ought, to all appearances, to have been well pleased. We had decided to leave Avatcha on our left, and to make for Stari-ostrog,[1] a small village a little higher up the Avatcha River, and forty versts from Petropaulovska.

[1] The *ostrogs*, or small forts, were erected by the Russians in bygone days as a protection against the natives at the time of the first settlement of the country. The name now alone remains, all traces of fortification having long since disappeared.

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

000 load. The last string was in charge of our new man, who, overcome by the "damnable iteration" of a birch-forest, fell asleep and tumbled off his horse. In his fall, unfortunately, he dislodged some of the loose packs, which, swinging under the horse's belly, started it off at full speed. Dashing wildly forward the frightened animals caught the others in rear, upsetting Vodki and communicating the stampede to the whole line. We were at the time in thick forest, and plunging into this, our cavalcade rapidly disappeared in all directions, various ominous crackings alone revealing their line of progress. When separate individuals of a string try to pass on different sides of the same tree a startling effect is very often produced, but the old and experienced packhorse knows that better results may be obtained by the navigation of a three-foot passage between two birches. We found Ivan supporting his head in both hands, and proceeded to administer a lecture and surgical relief. Vodki, by the really masterly and exhaustive manner in which he was exhibiting the expletive richness of the Russian language, was evidently not in a condition to require attention. There is always, happily, a comical side to these affairs, which makes the traveller regard "the most disastrous chances" to his baggage with tolerable equanimity.

712 / R 177 . 71 We pitched camp about twelve or fifteen miles from Narchiki, a little village that in bygone days was one of the palisaded *ostrogs* of the Russians; and though close to a pretty and most likely-looking stream, we were unable to catch any fish for supper, for the first and only time during our ride to the river.

224 438 443 452 563 In most bush countries it is the hunter's rule to see that the fire is extinguished, or at least rendered harmless, before breaking camp. In Kamschatka the greatest care is taken about this, as bush-fires invariably cause the sables to desert the neighbourhood for many miles around. As my readers are perhaps aware, the fur of this animal is the most valuable export of the country, and a very large proportion of the inhabitants are employed for the greater part of the year in sable-hunting only. The price obtained by the hunter